

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Wednesday, November 21, 2018

LOOKING BACK AND AHEAD

Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner

Over the last eight years, the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) has made tremendous progress in its mission to Grow Connecticut Farms. These successes were made possible by the unyielding support of our governor and state legislators, the hard work of DoAg staff, and the effective advocacy of key stakeholders. As a stand-alone, cabinet-level agency, DoAg is positioned to advance Connecticut farming and agriculture.

Critical to the agency's ability to serve the agricultural community and its consumers are the programs funded through the Community Investment Act.

These monies not only make matching grants available to farmers, municipalities, and nonprofits, but also fund portions of our farmland protection efforts and provide critical support to Connecticut's dairy sector. Through our robust portfolio of grants, programs, and services, DoAg has been able to support the growth and diversification of Connecticut's farm families and businesses.

As I complete my eighth year serving as your commissioner, this is a perfect time to reflect on what we have accomplished together and to look forward on what the agricultural community might tackle in the months and years to come.

One of the areas of work where I take great pride—and we have made a lasting mark—is the permanent protection of our state's farmland.

Working closely with our many partners in municipal and federal government, and those in the private not-for-profit community, DoAg has, over the last eight years purchased the development rights to more than 9,250 acres on 90 farms, increasing the number of farms enrolled in the Farmland Preservation program by 25 percent.

In addition to purchasing development rights to working farms, DoAg also has provided \$3.9 million in grants to farmers to restore more than 1,100 acres of prime and important soils for active production. These grants have been matched by over \$5.6 million from farmers and farmland owners.

Over the same timeframe, the agency

has awarded 147 Farm Transition Grants to help diversify and expand farm operations, and provided 165 grants to municipalities and non-profits for projects supporting agriculture through the Farm Viability Grant program.

In terms of public policy, the designation of DoAg as the lead agency for the enforcement of the new Produce Safety Rule (PSR) under the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) promises to have far-reaching impact on the future of fruit and vegetable farming in Connecticut.

Under FSMA's PSR, cultivation, harvesting, and holding will be regulated for the first time in our nation's history. Through funding under a cooperative agreement with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), DoAg has established a new produce safety program to monitor the growing, harvesting, and holding of produce in Connecticut, hiring and training staff to extend its food safety mission onto fruit and vegetable farms.

The agency's work will be guided by the mantra to educate before and while we regulate. DoAg is working closely with UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources to fulfill its outreach and education responsibilities.

The agency also has worked with stakeholders and the state legislature to strengthen Connecticut Grown laws in an effort to protect Connecticut farmers from unfair competition from those who simply buy and sell.

New provisions in state law require that sellers clearly state the farm of origin when selling agricultural products as Connecticut Grown. This change supports farmers who work hard to cultivate, grow, and harvest crops, and provides consumers important information when making choices in various market places.

After hearing from stakeholders, farm-of-origin requirements were extended from direct sales venues to farm-to-school programs to assist food service personnel in their efforts by helping assure they are get-



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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.23	1.43
LARGE	1.17	1.31
MEDIUM	1.01	1.14

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.77	1.89
LARGE	1.69	1.79
MEDIUM	1.26	1.39
SMALL	.85	.96

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Choice 2-3	102.00	103.00
Select 1-2	96.00	101.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prime 3-4	83.00	87.50
Choice 2-3	78.00	82.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	106.00	109.00
Choice 2-3	104.00	105.50
Select 2-3	97.00	102.50
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 90-124 lbs	60.00	75.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	42.50	48.50
boners 80-85% lean	43.00	47.00
lean 88-90% lean	33.00	38.50
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	150.00	175.00
110-130 lbs	140.00	155.00
130-150 lbs	135.00	145.00
150-200 lbs	125.00	130.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	80.00	105.00
120-160 lbs	70.00	97.00
160-200 lbs	70.00	90.00
200-300 lbs	70.00	90.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
40-60 lbs	135.00	160.00
60-80 lbs	170.00	190.00
80-100 lbs	180.00	210.00
100-120 lbs	215.00	220.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	175.00	200.00
130-180 lbs	190.00	230.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	230.00	260.00
150-250 lbs	320.00	410.00
SLAUGHTER WETHERS: Sel 1		
100-150 lbs	270.00	300.00
150-250 bs	325.00	425.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS			
52-56	200-300 lbs	50.00	64.00
	300-350 lbs	51.00	59.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	38.00	52.00
	300-350 lbs	43.00	51.00
	350-400 lbs	35.00	40.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	32.00	40.00
	500-750 lbs	34.50	43.00
Boars			
	450-750 lbs	5.00	7.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE, CRTLND, 80, CRT, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, 88, CRT, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRTLND, NG, LOOSE	18.00	18.00
APPLE, CRISPIN, BU, NG	20.00	22.00
APPLE, GALA, NG	22.00	22.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP,80,CRT,XFCY	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP,88,CRT,XFCY	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HNYCRSP, NG, LOOSE	45.00	45.00
APPLE, MAC, 80, CRT, XFCY	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, 88, CRT, XFCY	30.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC,100, CRT, XFCY	26.00	26.00
APPLE, MAC,125, #1	17.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC,138, #1	17.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, NG, LOOSE	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MACOUN,80,CRT,XFCY	38.00	38.00
APPLE, MACOUN, LOOSE, NG	26.00	26.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 100	24.00	24.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 125	19.00	19.00
APPLE, RED DEL, XFCY, 138	19.00	19.00
BEAN SPROUTS,10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEETS, RED, BNCH, 12S, CRT	16.00	18.00
BEETS, CHIOGGA,BNCH,12S,CRT	14.00	16.00
BEETS, GOLD, BNCH, 12S, CRT	14.00	16.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
POTATO,RNDWT,#1,50 LB, CHEF	13.00	15.00
POTATO, RUSSET, #1, 50 LB, 60	16.00	18.00
POTATO, RUSSET, #1, 50 LB, 70	16.00	18.00
POTATO, RUSSET, #1, 50 LB, 80	16.00	18.00
POTATO, RUSSET, #1, 50 LB, 90	16.00	18.00
POTATO, RUSSET, #1, 50 LB, 100	16.00	18.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 1/2 BU, M	20.00	25.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 36" BIN, M	270.00	300.00
RUTABAGAS, 50 LB, CRT, M	35.00	36.00
SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9,M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, CARNIVAL, 1-1/9, L	15.00	16.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, 1-1/9, L	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, BLUE HUB,1-1/9, L	18.00	20.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
TOMS, GHS, 25LBS,VINRIPE,S-M	22.00	22.00
TOM,GHS,CHRRY,5 LB FLAT,S-M	15.00	15.00

BOSTON MARKET ORGANIC

Price Range. Per unit.

CABBAGE, 45 LB, CRT, M-L	24.00	24.00
CARROTS, 24- 2 LB, M-L	30.00	30.00
EGGPLANT, WRPPD, 1-1/9, M	25.00	26.00
KALE, BNCH, 12S, CRT	22.00	22.00
MESCULIN MIX, 3 LB, CRT	8.00	10.00
MUSHROOMS, PA, 12-8OZ, M	17.00	17.00
PEPPER, RED,GHS, NE, 11 LB	28.00	32.00
PEPPER, YEL, GHS, NE, 11 LB	28.00	32.00
PEPPER, ORNG, GHS, NE, 11 LB	32.00	34.00
SPINACH, BABY, CA, 4 LB, CRT	12.00	13.00
SQUASH, ACORN, BU, CRT, M	24.00	24.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP,BU,CRT,M	30.00	32.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT,BU,CRT,M	24.00	24.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, BU, CRT, M	32.00	32.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, BU,CRT,M	29.00	29.00
SWEET POTATO, MI, 40 LB	48.00	54.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - November 19, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	15.00	20.00
61-75 lbs.	25.00	32.50
76-90 lbs.	35.00	40.00
91-105 lbs.	42.50	45.00
106 lbs. & up	57.50	75.00
Farm Calves	87.50	145.00
Starter Calves	n/a	n/a
Veal Calves	90.00	150.00
Feeder Heifers	70.00	100.00
Beef Heifers	45.00	60.00
Feeder Steers	77.50	110.00
Beef Steers	48.00	100.00
Feeder Bulls	80.00	107.50
Beef Bulls	58.00	65.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	30.00	36.00
Butcher Hogs	35.00	48.00
Feeder Pigs each	55.00	85.00
Sheep each	125.00	160.00
Lambs each	120.00	280.00
Goats each	100.00	322.50
Kid Goats each	55.00	200.00
Canners	up to	45.00
Cutters	46.00	49.00
Utility Grade Cows	50.00	52.00
Rabbits each	4.00	25.00
Chickens each	3.00	15.00
Ducks each	7.00	16.00
Turkeys each	20.00	35.00

CARLISLE, PA. FEEDER PIGS

November 12, 2018. Per cwt.

US 1-2		
33-39 lbs	70.00	84.00
47-49 lbs	45.00	55.00
53-59 lbs	50.00	79.00
63-68 lbs	50.00	80.00
70-79 lbs	50.00	75.00
84-89 lbs	55.00	69.00
90-92 lbs	69.00	76.00
101-109 lbs	65.00	92.00
135 lbs	80.00	91.00

USDA WHOLESALE CUTFLOWERS

November 20, 2018. \$/pack and long or as noted.

AMARYLLS, NL, EA	3.95	4.75
ANTHURIUM, HI, EA	3.00	3.75
HYPERICUM, EC, PER BUNCH	8.50	10.00
ILEX, NL, 10, XL	30.00	40.00
ILEX, CA, 5	15.00	20.00
MUM, CB, SPIDER, 10	7.50	8.00
MUM, CB, CREMON, DSB, 10	7.50	8.50
PEONY, NL, EACH,	5.00	5.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA HAY REPORT

Price per ton, small squares. November 16.

ALFALFA/GRASS		
PREMIUM	250.00	345.00
GOOD	175.00	255.00
GRASS HAYS		
PREMIUM	335.00	430.00
GOOD	250.00	305.00
STRAW	275.00	335.00

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ting the products for which they are paying.

With the assistance of the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services, DoAg was able to acquire rights to nearly 1,000 acres of shellfish beds along the Thimble Islands.

This area is targeted as an incubator opportunity for small and start-up companies to plant, cultivate, and harvest shellfish and kelp. Through licenses to private business concerns, these beds provide a chance of these small and new operations to generate jobs and bring Connecticut Grown product to market.

In recent years Connecticut has experienced extreme weather events ranging from hurricanes and super storms to tornados and historic snowstorms.

Recognizing the severe negative impact these events had on Connecticut farm families, Governor Malloy directed the agency to develop a relief program for producers negatively affected by devastating weather in 2013.

As a result, the State of Connecticut established a one-time emergency-relief effort known as the PLANT Grant that made \$5 million available to farmers to ease the loss of crops, infrastructure, and feed.

Some other accomplishments of the last eight years:

- Developing legislation that supports Connecticut's craft farm breweries and farm wineries
- Developing an Avian Influenza response plan
- Passage of legislation to transfer the 925-acre Southbury Training School Farm from the Department of Developmental Disabilities to DoAg
- Placement of a permanent conservation easement on Southbury Training School Farm to keep the 925-acre farm available for agricultural use in perpetuity

While managing a wide variety of programs and initiatives, I also had the good fortune to be elected by my peers to lead the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). This is the only time in the 102-year history of the organization that a Connecticut commissioner was elected to serve as president of this well-respected national organization.

As NASDA president I had the opportunity to lift up issues important to Connecticut and Northeast farmers and to showcase Connecticut and Connecticut agriculture when we hosted the 2018 NASDA annual meeting in Hartford in September.

As we look ahead, there are a number of challenges and opportunities on the horizon that should be addressed.

In the next legislative session, Connecticut should consider establishing an industrial hemp pilot program, and ensure industrial hemp is recognized as an agricultural crop. The 2014 Farm Bill allowed for this in limited ways, but as state and federal laws on this topic continue to evolve, Connecticut and its farmers must be positioned to capitalize on market opportunities. The legislature should consider strengthening DoAg's statutory authority as we ready regulation to stand up a program that empowers Connecticut farmers.

There is also a need to address growing crises in the agricultural community in a meaningful way. Friends in Colorado and other states have established programs that ensure appropriate support is available for those in agriculture who are struggling, whether that be with mental health, financial planning, or transition planning.

All too often we miss the signs and, sadly, the opportunity to help. We must commit to working across agency lines and with each other to do what we can to provide assistance and a helping hand. We can and must do better.

The last eight years have been a period of great forward momentum in agriculture in our state, but as is always true with farming, our work is never done. The employees at DoAg are excited to support your success and the growth of Connecticut farms.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your commissioner.

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency.

Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

80-R. Christmas greens: wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fundraisers. 203-457-1344.

95-R. Frist cut hay and mulch available. Suffield. 860-668-2181.

WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

87-R. Livestock trailer, any size or condition. Call Bruce 860-465-7543.

88-R. Seeking rear differential for an International truck, or entire International truck for parts. Call Bruce 860-465-7543.

MISCELLANEOUS

89-R. Bulldozing in Eastern CT. Farm ponds up to 3 acres. Need farm water, call Don Kemp. Also, land clearing. 860-546-9500.

HOLIDAY AND WINTER FARMERS' MARKET

Winter farmers' markets are opening across the state this month, giving growers and consumers a chance to extend the season, indoors. A list of 2018/2019 winter farmers' markets is available on the DoAg website at www.ct.gov/doag.

Farmers' markets interested in being included on the list of 2018/2019 winter farmers' markets should contact Jaime Smith at Jaime.Smith@ct.gov.

DEFEND THE FLOCK WEBINAR

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is promoting collaboration among poultry growers to keep birds healthy and prevent the outbreak of disease.

APHIS is expanding the Defend the Flock public education program to include tools and resources for all poultry growers to use to practice good biosecurity.

To kick off the campaign, veterinarians from APHIS and CDC will lead a free webinar: Let's Keep Our Poultry Healthy Together: Defend Your Flock with Biosecurity Resources on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. To register go to https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Lu0MXfEyR5Wp3lAnpv-Pkg

DOAG TO HOST FARM-TO-SCHOOL CONFERENCE

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) has been awarded a Farm-to-School Grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service to train producers and food service professionals on farm-to-school practices. This annual grant program provides funding to support the use of locally produced food in schools.

DoAg will be using these funds to host the Connecticut Farm-to-School Conference, "Wholesale Readiness and Culinary Trainings: Making Connections Across the Sectors." Producers, food service professionals, and others interested in farm-to-school initiatives are invited to join us on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at the Hartford Sheraton South in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, for a full day of trainings, panel discussion, educational sessions, and networking.

Producers looking to expand markets can learn business and marketing techniques from the Cornell Cooperative Extension Baskets to Pallets program. Designed for farmers of all enterprises, attendees will benefit from a wide range of topics including how to build relationships with buyers, record keeping, pricing, and food safety.

Scholarships are available to Connecticut producers on a first-come, first-served basis. Funding is limited and producers are encouraged to apply early.

Food-service professionals will learn how to incorporate locally grown products into their menus with the help of Brigaid chefs, who believe that "students deserve real, wholesome food, cooked with care and passion by chefs whose dedication is all encompassing".

Brigaid recruits professionally trained chefs to lead school kitchens full-time with the goal of cooking delicious food from scratch. These meals simultaneously meet the strict budgetary and nutritional guidelines set by the National School Lunch Program. Currently, Brigaid operates in six schools in the New London Public School district.

There will be opportunities for networking and discussion. The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes breakfast, lunch and all materials.

Limited exhibit opportunities are available for interested farm-to-

school partners. This is an opportunity for food and agriculture associations, cooperatives, food-supply-chain businesses, non-profits, federal and state ag agencies and Connecticut municipalities to showcase their business or organization to producers and food-service professionals. Exhibit space is available at no cost, but each booth attendant must register for the conference.

To register as an attendee, or apply for an exhibit space, visit: https://www.cognitofrms.com/CTDepartmentOfAgriculture/_2019ConnecticutFarmtoSchoolConference. For additional information regarding exhibiting, registration, and scholarships, please contact Erin Windham at 860-713-2543 or Erin.Windham@ct.gov.

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PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE GROWER TRAINING

Produce farm inspections will begin in 2019. Produce growers subject to inspections are reminded to take the approved Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training Course and participate in the field portion of the training, the On-Farm Readiness Review.

A FSMA Produce Safety Rule/Produce Safety Alliance approved Grower Training Course is being offered by UConn Extension on December 5 and 6 (snow date December 7) at the Middlesex County Extension Center, 1066 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT. The registration fee is \$50. The deadline to register is November 26, 2018. Visit www.cahnrcconference.uconn.edu to register. This course satisfies the requirement that any produce farm subject to inspection have at least one employee attend the PSA Grower Training Course.

For additional information regarding this course, contact: Diane Wright Hirsch at 203-407-3163 or diane.hirsch@uconn.edu. Questions related to the On-Farm Readiness Review program can be directed to Resha Jacquier at 860-713-2522 or resha.jacquier@ct.gov.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



CTGrown.gov

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06103. For more information contact Jane.Murdock@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

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